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Mississippi Education Association

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MEA Newsletter

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Vol. 3, No. 4

Mississippi Education Association, Jackson

April, 1975



Photo-montage of Delegate Assembly by Frank Noone

'75 CONVENTION:

Agreement to *Merge* Comes in Final Moments

CLOSE ON THE HEELS of the Governor's signing SB 2002, raising your salary, MEA's 89th convention, March 24-26, saw the long-sought merger with its counterpart, Mississippi Teachers Association, finally agreed.

To become effective on September 1, 1976, the official delegates' vote was: MEA—439 for; 111 against; MTA—288 for; 152 against.

The historic decision was announced jointly, at MEA Delegate Assembly, by MEA President Mrs. Mildred McReynolds of Starkville and MTA President J. D. Williams, Clarksdale.

Meanwhile, a six-member Merger Implementation Committee has been appointed to work on details. The three from MEA are Mrs. Beatrice Bradley, Columbia; Mrs. Nell Thomas, Greenville; Sharp Banks, Vicksburg.

At the Assembly, Bill Roach of Oxford motioned to table the merger proposal until every member had an opportunity to study the new Constitution and By-laws. He was ruled out

of order because the merger agreement, approved by the two boards, called for a vote before March 31.

There were other convention highlights. At a new "What's your Question?" session, questions ran the gamut from the advantages of merging to MEA's stand on accountability.

McComb's multi-media extravaganza, "Today's Images", was all that had been promised and more. With three screens operating simultaneously, supported by student-actors, the performance was a stirring reminder of education's role in our heritage.

The Starkville Education Assn. an-

nounced that a scholarship fund had been established for a boy and a girl in honor of MEA President, Mrs. Mildred McReynolds. Mrs. Anne Hardy, a past president, read a touching tribute to retiring MEA Executive Secretary, Charlie Johnson. District presidents, at a luncheon in his honor, presented gifts to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson.

At Shownight, Yazoo City's Jerry Clower got a tremendous ovation when he showed up to introduce Jerry Reed. Reed and his five back-up musicians were talented, versatile,

(continued, page 4)

Will Honor Retiring MEA Head Next Month

On Sunday, May 4, from 2-5 p.m., MEA members and the Board of Directors will honor Charles A. Johnson, Executive Secretary, who is retiring on May 30.

There will be a program, beginning at 2 p.m., in the Jackson City Auditorium. A reception will follow in the Green Room on the lower level. The public is being invited, as well as

educators. It is hoped that many friends throughout the state will be on hand to pay tribute to one who has meant so much to education in Mississippi for the past 10 years.

Chairman of the committee planning the occasion is Mrs. Anne Hardy of Jackson. Serving with her are Dr. Clyde Muse, Donald Dick, Mrs. Nell Thomas and J. E. Aldridge.

MEA Newsletter

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Executive Secretary & Editor:
Charles A. Johnson

Associate Editor:

Mrs. Marianna Brannon



Here Are Significant Items in the Merger Agreement and Constitution

Name—Mississippi Association of Educators; **Magazine**—"The Mississippi Educator".
February 12—Action by Board of Directors; March 26—Action by Delegate Assembly; September 1, 1976—"Merger Date."

Staff—Executive Secretary, selected by board, will be one of then current executive secretaries. Associate Executive Secretary, selected by board, will be the other current executive secretary. The contract for these will be for at least two years.

Staff employed as of February 12, if on staff September 1, '76, will be retained and guaranteed one year's employment.

Fair dismissal and promotion policies will be developed. Regulations of the Retirement System will be followed. Staff and salaries on file with each organization.

Implementation Committee—Three from each association, effective date of agreement to be appointed to work during the interim time to complete details of merger, set up elections, etc.

Unified membership—A vote on this to be taken by the combined membership of MEA and MTA after the agreement "as soon as practicable" and a provision that, if this vote fails, there is to be another vote after merger date.

NEA guarantees budget for 3 years, if unified (using membership of 74-75 year as base figure or use immediate preceding year).

Officers—President, President-elect, secretary treasurer.

Board of Directors—Seven districts (revised map). Consists of elected officers plus immediate past president; NEA Director (ex-officio) and 8 elected members from each district; One member each for students, junior colleges, senior colleges, State Dept. of Education.

The 8 elected for 3 year terms not to succeed themselves (with provision for short or unexpired term). Of the 8, 5 shall be classroom teachers; 1 elem. adm.; 1 sec. adm.; 1 district adm.

Of the 5 classroom teachers, at least 1 from each district shall be of minority race

Nine Seek MEA Post; Choice Expected Soon

At presstime, the Screening Committee, which is interviewing applicants for the position of MEA Executive Secretary, states that competition is keen.

Of the nine who applied, one is from Alabama and one from Arkansas. The post becomes vacant on June 1 when Charles A. Johnson retires after 10 years.

The Screening Committee is to re-

port to the Executive Committee. That group then makes its recommendation to the Board of Directors, which will make the final choice.

Those on the Screening Committee are: Chairman—Mrs. Nell Thomas, Greenville; Donald Dick, McComb; Mrs. Martha Cheney, Tupelo; Dr. Clyde Muse, Meridian; Edwin Hayman, Long Beach, and Glenn Norwood, Itta Bena.

13 Teachers Retire

Those listed below have now retired, according to the Public Employees Retirement System. Years of service are listed at right.

Thelma H. Boone, Clarksdale	26
J. D. Dye, Coahoma Co.	17
Eulalie D. Elder, Jackson	26
Josephine H. Henley, Jackson	39
Iris C. Hobbs, Biloxi	32
Eugene V. McKinley, USM	16
Carl J. Moran, Bay St. Louis	31
Jewel P. Neal, Meridian	33
Sashie N. O'Kelley, New Albany	32
Hazel Rubenstein, Booneville	19
Mary Ruth Simpson, Pickens	29
Mary M. Snowden, Hattiesburg	27
Mildred P. Wilson, Schlater	30

CALENDAR

APRIL

- Cancer Control Month
- Metric Month
- 17-19: NASSP Student Management Institute, Jackson
- 18: State Science Fair
- 20-26: Earth Week
- 21-24: Natl. Council of Teachers of Math, Atlanta
- 23-27: Miss. Arts Festival, Jackson
- 25: Sou. Literary Festival, Jackson
- 23-25: Pupil Transportation Workshop, Gulf Park Campus
- 25-26: State HS Choral Festival
- 25-26: State HS Honor Society Convention
- 26: State HS Debate Tourney

MAY

- 2-3: State HS Piano Festival
- 2-3: State HS Tennis Tournaments
- 4-10: Natl. Music Week
- 10: State HS Track Meets
- 11: Mother's Day
- 11-14: Natl. Council on Year-Round Education, Denver
- 13-16: Intl. Reading Assn., NYC
- 26: Memorial Day

JUNE

- 9-20: Aerospace Ed. Workshop, USM
- 14: Flag Day
- 15: Father's Day
- 29-July 4: NEA Convention, Los Angeles



Bad Teaching Blamed for Poor Spelling

Spelling skill is falling off nationally, and one of the most far-reaching studies ever made on the subject has pinpointed the blame—ineffective teaching methods.

A recent survey of 1,289 elementary teachers points up "some glaring shortcomings in teaching methods—which may explain why spelling skills have fallen so drastically in the past 10 to 20 years," says one of the researchers.

The study found these gaps between what educators know about teaching spelling and how it is actually taught:

- Having a child correct his own spelling test is the single most important factor in learning to spell, but only one-third of the teachers use this technique.

- Giving a child a spelling test, then letting him study the words he missed, is better than having him study first and then take a test. But only one-third do so.

- Having children study "hard spots" in words does not help them spell, and according to one study, may be harmful. But 86% of the teachers frequently point out "hard spots."

Dr. Bradley M. Loomer, a professor of elementary education, calls teaching the meaning of words a waste of time in improving spelling, since the words in spelling exercises are usually well understood by the pupils. But, he says, "nearly 95% of the teachers do teach children the meaning of words at the same time they teach spelling."

The study also discloses these inconsistencies:

- Learning words by the whole method, rather than by syllables, is preferable. But a third of the teachers avoid this.

- Teaching spelling by phonic rules is a questionable practice. But nearly 80% use phonic rules in teaching.

- Presenting words in list form is preferable to presenting them in sentences or paragraphs. But more than half generally use the sentence and paragraph method.

Mel Luna in National Enquirer



Peterson



Downs



Ayers



Hutton

Second Primary Elects Six New State Directors



Belue



King

and fills two district posts

Runoff elections in February added six to MEA's state Board of Directors and two in the districts, thus completing the roster for 1975-76. Results were announced at the convention by M. W. Fondren of Union, state Elections Committee chairman.

On the state Board: (for Classroom Teacher in District 2)—Peggy Peterson of Union defeated Phil Sutphin, Meridian; Classroom Teacher (Dist. 3)—Dianne Downs of Greenwood defeated Inez Romine, Greenville; Secondary Administrator (Dist. 3)—George Ayers, Senatobia, defeated William Dodson, Greenville;

Classroom Teacher (Dist. 4)—Mary Sue Hutton of Florence defeated Nancy Easley, Vicksburg; District Ad-

ministrator (Dist. 4)—Dr. Virgil Belue of Clinton defeated O. W. Mendrop, Vicksburg; Classroom Teacher (Dist. 5)—Sandra King of Laurel defeated Virginia McElhaney, Hattiesburg.

Two District Officers

On the district level, for President (Dist. 4)—William M. Moss of Raymond defeated Johnny Franklin, Vicksburg; for Classroom Teacher (Dist. 6)—Suzzette Metheny, Gulfport, defeated Alvie White, Picayune.

The first primary in January elected eight to the state board, 25 to district office and named Mrs. Beatrice Bradley, Columbia, as incoming vice president. Those newly elected will take office June 1.

Jaycees Are Choosing Educators to Honor

Local Jaycee chapters over the state are now selecting their Outstanding Young Educator. Those honored are age 21-35, teach in grades 1-12 and have made a special contribution to education in their communities.

The three top overall winners will be awarded \$1500 in scholarships. Winners of the competition will be announced in August at the Jaycee Board meeting in Biloxi. This marks the fifth consecutive year that International Paper Company has sponsored the program.



Publisher Sues Protesters

In the recent flurry of battles over what books will be used in the nation's schools and libraries, the book publishers themselves have stayed pretty much in the background. Last month, however, an Oklahoma company struck back, reports the Texas State Teachers Assn.

The Economy Company, book publisher for 45 years, filed a \$30 million lawsuit accusing textbook protesters of libel, slander and conspiracy in Austin, after its 7th and 8th grade readers were rejected for use in Texas schools.

"\$30 Million in Lost Sales"

The suit alleges that the three women who led the battle "demonstrated their own racism, bigotry, sexism, prejudice and provincialism by attacking specifically selections written both by and about members of racial minority groups." The rejection of the books—even though they had been approved by the State Textbook Committee—damaged the company's name and reputation "resulting in a monetary loss conservatively estimated at \$30 million from lost sales," claims the suit.

Whether the women's protests are found to be legitimate or the company's charges are upheld, the suit will spotlight one of today's most controversial issues and dig into the public's responsibility for constructive criticism and publishers' responsibility to their consumers.

Agreement to Merge Comes in Final Moments

(continued from page 1)

groovy and loud. Their superb performance was probably the most "mod" an MEA audience has enjoyed.

The 16 x 20 in. oil portrait of the late Ed Hayman was also presented to MEA at Shownight by Dexter Montgomery.

At the drawing, Mrs. Gloria C. Mauldin, second grade teacher at Gulfport Northeast Elementary, won the free trip.

On hand for one session were the Governor and Lt. Governor.

At their annual dinner, past presidents reelected Joe Aldridge of Jackson to represent them on the Board for another year. ▲

1975 Legislative Program —what happened?

GOALS	RESULTS
*Raise A base salary to \$7,000 Raise AA base salary to \$8,000 Raise AAA to \$9,000	A base salary raised to \$7200 AA base salary raised to \$7900 AAA base salary raised to \$8600
**For A, add \$200 increments through 10 yrs. AA—\$250 increments through 12 yrs. AAA—\$275 increments through 14 yrs.	A—\$200 increments through 8 yrs. AA—\$225 increments through 10 yrs. AAA—\$250 increments through 12 yrs.
Increase supportive service to 20% of "A" base.	Supportive service increased from \$750 per Teacher Unit to \$1,000 per Teacher Unit.
Require school districts to supplement Minimum Program teachers at least 7% of base pay.	Removed by House Committee and attempt to amend on floor failed.
Authorize and fund additional teachers' salaries for current session.	Died in Committee.
Lower ADA in grades 1-3 to 20:1. Kindergarten optional.	ADA lowered in first grade, 24:1. Kindergarten option removed.
Drop exemption of industry for school tax.	Died in Committee.
Retirement: A. Full retirement after 30 yrs. B. State pay 1½ retirement for Minimum Program teachers now paid by districts. C. Let school personnel with 20 yrs. state tenure buy up to 10 yrs. for out-of-state service.	A. Passed. (Those with early retirement penalty (before '73) now have penalty removed, if with 30 yrs.) B. Failed. C. Failed.
Part of state revenue sharing funds be used to air condition classrooms. Also 20% consigned to education.	Failed.
Increase EFC bonds and school building funds.	Passed.
One type school district with uniform laws.	Law not drafted.
Support Items: Equalize property assessments.	Failed.
Protect tax levying power of school board.	Minimum Program amended to prevent reduction of amount of local taxes from previous year.
Compulsory attendance.	Attendance counselors for school districts recommitted to House Education Committee. This killed the bill.

(continued, next page)

President's Speech to Delegates Accents the Challenge of Change

MEA President Mrs. Mildred McReynolds spoke briefly to the Delegate Assembly in Jackson on March 26. She said:

THANK YOU FOR AN excellent year for MEA. Many good things have occurred:

1. More involvement at the local and state level. Many people have combined efforts to accomplish what was accomplished during the year.

2. Much time has been spent on negotiating for the best merger agreement at which we could arrive. I personally feel that the educators of Mississippi will be more effective if they are working in one group with one goal.

3. Teachers have become much more active politically. That's what it's going to take to get the job done.

We have a feeling of great sadness because we are going to lose the leadership of Mr. Charley. We wish him nothing but happiness in any new undertaking he might have. I would

like to express a deep feeling of gratitude for the efficient work and dedication of the MEA staff people. Each worked happily, unselfishly, untiringly, and very, very efficiently on days, nights and weekends in your and my behalf.

I would like to throw out a challenge today—the challenge of retrospect combined with vision.

The clamor for change is echoing in our ears. Change can be challenge—those demanding change ask us to look at new objectives, new emphases, new thinking as we carry on our work.

One change that is forcing itself upon us is the thinking of our young people. Possibly time will measure the dimension of this change, but we are aware that rapid change is taking place. Of what does this change consist? Is it a repudiation of the foundation of our democracy? Is it questioning our symbols that have become

tarnished? Is it an attempt to find more meaning from life?

We must try to understand our youth. We must listen to what they are saying. We must not drown in the sea of unconcern.

Change for change's sake is not necessarily good. This does not always mean progress. What we do not change may be more significant than what we do change. We must examine our actions carefully and thoughtfully before we decide what to change and what to keep.

The state professional organization must locate and increase opportunities for making itself an ongoing positive force.

Thus we see that progress can come from respect for tradition combined with vision into the future.

As we meet the challenge for change, let us take time:

Take time to reflect...

Take time to evaluate...

Take time to believe.

Some Space Still Open On MEA Summer Tours

Application deadline date for all members and their families who plan to take the European tour is April 29.

Departing May 29, the five-country tour will visit the best of Portugal, Spain, Italy, Switzerland and England. As an added bonus, all participants will be allowed three hours' credit toward certificate renewal. Cost of the European tour is \$1175 and requires a \$100 deposit.

June 7 is the deadline for the Hawaii/San Francisco fun trip. Departing Jackson July 7 for Honolulu, this trip will terminate July 17 after a week in Hawaii and three days in San Francisco. A \$50 deposit is required. Deposits on both tours are completely refundable up to 30 days before departure. By late March, 27 had signed up for the fun trip.

Get-acquainted luncheons will be held in Jackson in early May for both tours, so travelers can meet their respective groups and ask any questions. Final details about these orientation sessions will be sent to participants before the luncheon date.

Those interested should call MEA immediately or write for details to MEA-Travel, P.O. Drawer 22529, Jackson, MS 39205.

Solons Passed Other Education Measures

In addition to MEA-sponsored educational goals, the legislature passed others. Some of interest are:

An "Accountability" Bill that directs the State Dept. of Education to provide leadership and direction in helping school districts formulate system-wide accountability programs. Participation by all concerned is anticipated.

Use of school buses in emergency situations was approved.

School bus transportation to Vo/Tech centers was approved.

Legislation was adopted for school boards to appoint peace officers.

Jr. and Sr. College appropriations increased. The Jr. College Bill contains a section, stating "...intent of the Legislature is to provide funds out of first money in this appropriation to increase average salary for fulltime equivalent instructors to \$11,514."

1975 Legislative Program—continued

GOALS	RESULTS
Appoint county superintendents; elect county school boards.	Died In Committee.
Expand present State Board of Education.	Died In Committee.
Allow sick leave or partial payment of insurance premium for personnel.	Died In Committee.

*1974-75 Salaries: A—\$6572; AA—\$7208; AAA—\$7844.

**74-75 Increments: All \$120; A—7 yrs.; AA & AAA—9 yrs.

From Horn Lake to Moss Point

COLLINS ELEM. PRINCIPAL Herman Campbell says Covington County teachers believe the metric system is here to stay. To prepare for it, 28 of them are taking a metrics course from USM's Dr. John Flowers, who comes to Collins, one night a week. Many of them are already using the new information in their classrooms. They encourage other counties to contact Univ. of Southern Miss. and schedule the course "... so Mississippi will be ready to step ahead when the U.S. goes metric!"

IT HAPPENED LAST MONTH

Russell Phillips, English teacher in S. Pike schools, announced for Lincoln County Supt. of Education ... Membership card # 13,000 went to **Joe Moore** at Winona ... Lowndes County Supt. **A. D. Hatcher** believes arson was involved in the fire at Caledonia's auditorium ... HS Principal **Lester Baucum** was re-hired at Wiggins. He'd called a public hearing after Stone County Ed. Supt. **James Gordon** recommended he not be ... Lucedale basketball coach, **Haywood Reeves**, had surgery.

After the Forrest County AFT filed suit, most of the teachers in the schools involved rallied to the defense of Supt. **Ellis Flynt** & Principals **Nobles**, **Blackwell**, **Ratliff**, **Sanderson** & **Todd** ... You'll be hearing more about M-Pact in the months to come. By late March it had 2,000 contributors & \$10,000 ... When a George County school bus burst into flames at front, and the rear door jammed, two students led the other 23 to safety. But a reporter deplored the condition of the buses with no fire extinguishers (as required) & inoperable emergency exits, urging parents to look at them.

AT THE CONVENTION



Dr. Lamar Fortenberry, at left, Supt. at Canton, announced his candidacy for State Supt. of Education ... **Emily Anderson** of Seminary & **Mrs. P. A. Norris**, Benton, each won an electronic calculator from Southern Educators Life Ins. Co. ... **John Lowery** of McComb won a silver food warmer from Bruckner's School Photography ... **Mrs. Helen Rien** of Taylorsville won five Reading Readiness books from Child's World ... **Governor**

Waller presented an Outstanding Mississippian Award to MEA's **Charlie Johnson**.



THEY WERE HONORED

Dr. J. T. Hall (above), Miss. Delta JC prexy, was honored at an Appreciation Day. Here, he's given a plaque by the Student Body president. Speaking at a banquet later was **George Moody**, Executive Sec. of the SDE Jr. College division ... **Margaret Wade**, at 62, coached the womens' basketball team at Delta State to win the natl. title ... **Wayne West**, Hamilton vo/ag teacher, won the Newel Award from the Miss. Cattlemen's Assn. for best beef cattle program in state FFA Clubs ... **Biloxi Jaycees** named **Mrs. Julia Bonnett** "Outstanding Young Educator" for the 2nd successive year ... **Clinton DECA** advisors, **Nancy Ward** & **Fern Jones**, saw their club take top honors in state competition.

State Industrial Arts Teacher of the Year is **Robert White**, Pass Christian ... Home Ec. Teacher of the Year, **Mrs. Retha George**, Biloxi ... Adult Educator of the Year, **Jack Shank**, Meridian JC ... Outstanding Physics Teacher, **James Thriffiley**, Bay St. Louis ... Instructor of the Year at Jackson County JC is **Mrs. Lynne Pringle** ... Coached by **Billy Caples**, the Itawamba JC girls cage team, copped the state title ... **Eleanor Odom**, SDE Vo/Rehab counselor for Chickasaw County, won a "Case of the Year" award ... Taking Teacher of the Year awards in Adult Educa-

tion were **Mrs. Lillian Tobias**, McComb; **Mrs. Donna Etheridge**, Golden Triangle VT Center; **Mrs. Elizabeth Long**, Itawamba JC at Tupelo.

FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS



Former Senator **George Owens**, at left, died in Pontotoc. He was a good friend & recent legislative consultant for MEA ... Coach "**Babe**" Mc-

Carty, died at 51 of cancer, hours after being named to the Miss. Sports Hall of Fame. Longtime at MSU, & later a pro, he was often called, "Best basketball coach the state ever had!" ... Other deaths were **Mrs. Ineta P. Norwood**, science teacher at Jackson Hardy JH; **Ernest W. Wilson**, 61, academic dean at Holmes JC; **Morris Weems** of Tippoo who'd taught 25 years.

TRANSFERS & CHANGES

Two new lady principals next fall will be **Mrs. Patricia Quave** at Ocean Springs E. Elem. & **Ernestine Crisler** at Clinton Park ... **Olouse Tullis** left Miss. School for the Deaf, & **Aaron Roebuck** is now acting principal ... **Ken Gordon** resigned at Forest Middle School. His successor will be **Chuck Wade** ... Grid Coach **Bill Stevens** resigned at Pass Christian ... **A. J. Kilpatrick** will leave Louisville to be head grid coach at Northwest JC. His successor will be **Art Nester**, now at Kosciusko.

WHAT'S NEW?

Lawrence County schools now have a newsletter, "Chalk Talk", supervised by Asst. Supt. **Lawrence Mullins** ... **Mrs. Frances Patterson**, Tupelo 6th grade teacher, had an article in a natl. magazine, "The Slow Learner Workshop" ... Supt. **Allen Curry** says the name of E. Annex Elem. at Ocean Springs will be changed to **N. E. Taconi** Elem. School. Taconi was Supt. there 20 yrs. until he died in '71 ... With a \$11,000 grant, MSU has launched a teacher-improvement project in Greenwood.

USM's **Larry Bellipanni** is vice prexy of the Intl. Assn. for Metric Education ... New group chartered is the Miss. Assn. for the Talented & Gifted. Prexy is **Dr. Frances Karnes** of USM. Other officers: **Dr. Doug**

Everett, Meridian; Dr. Billie Bob Currie, Hattiesburg; Mrs. Joan Brumfield, McComb; Dr. Beatrice Molly, Jackson State U. . . Former Supt. J. M. Caughman of Laurel has been made Asst. State Director for the Natl. Retired Teachers Assn.

HOW 'BOUT THAT!

Ken Vaughn, Aberdeen math teacher, gets a double dose of youngsters. He also drives a school bus . . . **Tommy King**, Co-Lin biology instructor, has a six-foot Boa Constrictor for a pet . . . Former Calif. Governor **Ronald Reagan** will speak at Miss. College April 28 . . . **Joe Tally**, Smith County Ed. Supt., was evicted from his office by order of the County Board of Supervisors and, for awhile, conducted business from his car. They've long feuded over management of 16th section land, now renting for 40¢ an acre, and severance tax funds . . . **James Hall**, Jackson adult ed. teacher, had surgery for a broken nose after a former student attacked him. The student had dropped out but was angry because his federal education benefits had stopped.

CHAPEL BELLS

Two teaching couples married recently were **Margaret Janice Gibson** to **Martin Herrington**, Benton . . . **June Marie Allen**, DSU, to **J. C. Pegues, Jr.**, Leflore County . . . Recent bride is **Barbara Gale Messer**, Pascagoula . . . To be claimed are **Debra Elaine Owens**, Hattiesburg & **Mary Jo Peugh**, Greenville.

POTPOURRI

Speaking on school-community relations at AASA in Dallas were administrators **Harold Kelly**, Yazoo City; **D. G. McLaurin**, Natchez & **Otis Allen**, Greenwood . . . Sponsor of the Macon yearbook is **Mrs. Mary Ann Lindley** . . . **David Read** of Meridian Marion Park took 50 students to the Childrens' Book Festival at USM . . . **Mrs. Judy Haddox**, president, says Columbia educational secretaries voted to affiliate with the state group . . . At Rolling Fork HS, **Henry Wilson** is directing a Title III project in which girls who've had trouble with academics get practical learning activities . . . Recent retiree is **Mrs. Necia Rivers** who taught 30 yrs. at Ocean Springs. ▲

Pop Test No. 19

This multiple choice quiz gives three answers for each question, but only one is correct. Circle the answer you think is right—or give it an educated guess! Then turn to page 8 to see how well you scored.

1. When rain is imminent, the clouds we see are: Nimbus/Cumulus/Cirrus.

2. Cornell University is in: Wisconsin/New York/Indiana.

3. He said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it": George Santayana/Jonathan Swift/Samuel Johnson.

4. The herb you would use with cakes and puddings is: Anise/Rosemary/Basil.

5. In the Old Testament, the father of 88 children was: Malachi/Obadiah/Rehoboam.

6. A ukulele has: 3 strings/4 strings/5 strings.

7. In playing Bridge, your partner reneges if he: Fails to follow suit/Trumps your ace/Does not return your lead.

8. Agoraphobia is a fear of: High places/Open places/Being alone.

9. Bella Abzug is a: Writer/Lady Umpire/Politician.

10. To make the blossoms of a Hydrangea plant grow blue, you would add to the soil: Calcium/Iron/Nitrogen.

11. The U. S. S. Pueblo was captured by the: Japanese/Germans/North Koreans.

12. "Waltz of the Flowers" was composed by: Liszt/Chopin/Tchaikovsky.

13. If you weigh 125 pounds, in metrics that would be: 44 1/3 kilograms/56 1/4 kilograms/68 3/4 kilograms.

14. Tornadoes usually approach from the: Southeast/Southwest/Northeast.

15. The mythical beast which is half man and half horse is called a: Satyr/Centaur/Minotaur.

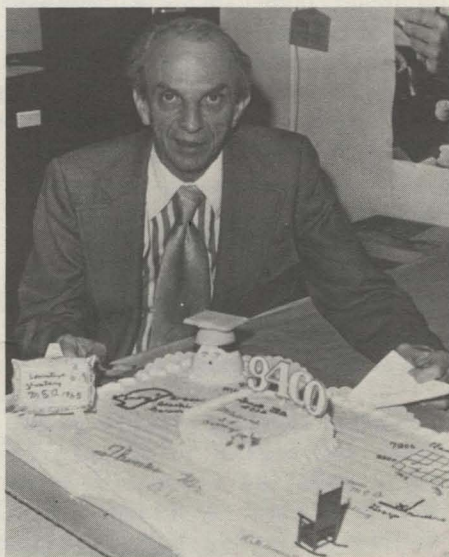
16. Digitalis, the drug used in treating heart disease, comes from the: Foxglove/Day Lily/Nasturtium.

17. One of these involves state boundary lines: Hatch Act/Smith-Hughes Act/Mann Act.

18. Author of "The Return of the Native" is: Thomas Hardy/Louis Bromfield/Thomas Wolfe.

19. The alleged axe murderess, Lizzie Borden, is said to have given her father: 22 whacks / 41 whacks / 55 whacks.

20. With the slogan, "Back the workers, not the shirkers", recently elected leader of the Conservative Party in England is Margaret Thatcher/ William Whitelaw/Louise Day Hicks.



Pascagoula's Classroom Teachers and the Pascagoula Education Assn. surprised MEA's Charlie Johnson with this huge cake at a joint meeting.

The decorations showed milestones in his career with the \$9400 representing average salary of state teachers following passage of Senate Bill 2002. The rocking chair signifies his retirement in June.

Presented by Mrs. Joyce Hamilton, Pas DCT prexy, and Charles Mooney, PEA prexy, Mrs. Hamilton said the work of the Executive Secretary was a contributing factor in boosting teachers' salaries over the southeastern average for the first time.

State School Head says Others Share "Accountability" Responsibility with You

JUST AS innovation was the watchword of the 60's in education—accountability is the call of the 70's.

I'd like to share with MEA members my thoughts on this topic and let you know the efforts your State Dept. of Education is making in this area.

Any discussion of educational accountability must clearly define: What it means; Who is accountable?; Accountable for what?; Accountable to whom?

There seems to be very little disagreement about the deficiencies of public education and the failure of students to achieve at the levels which have always been considered satisfactory. Unfortunately and tragically, this may be true in altogether too many instances, but not to the extent nor the degree to which many would have us believe.

This is not intended as a defense for poor teaching, nor poor administration, wherever such exists. The unfortunate implications of all such discussions are usually intended to fix all responsibility for poor performance in education at the classroom level. This is an invalid charge and cannot be justified.

Begins at the Top

Accountability is a shared responsibility and begins at the top. There are many forces that impinge upon the education of every child.

Each segment of the government vested with educational responsibility should be held accountable to the citizens who are the consumers and provide financial support.

No single element or agency should be held accountable in isolation. The role of the various elements of the educational system should be clearly defined, including not only teachers, administrators and students, but also school board members, parents, state educational agencies, legislators and governors.

The concept of shared accountability is essential and absolutely necessary in providing for the orderly and responsive management of public education.

A number of factors, including the

Dr. Garvin H. Johnston State Superintendent of Education

socioeconomic environment in which a child is reared, influences his performance in school. We know that diet has an effect on growth and development of a child's brain cells, mental ability and development. All this must be taken into consideration when the results of educational endeavors are measured.

Continuing Plan for Education

In the State Dept. of Education, we have been moving toward greater accountability in education since 1972. Our Planning and Evaluation office has initiated a multiyear, statewide project which could serve as a basis for accountability and improving schools. Called the Continuing Plan for Education in Mississippi, the project has involved thousands of people.

Steps in the process include: Needs; Goals; Objectives; Evaluation and Recycling. Educators over the state are now cooperating in the development of the third stage, developing specifically stated objectives for accomplishing adopted goals for elementary and secondary education.

As part of the third step, outstanding teachers were asked to help develop "catalogs of competencies" by subjects and grade levels. These catalogs give teachers in grades 1-12 a reference point for what students

should know about a subject by the time they reach certain grade levels.

Catalogs have been distributed for science, language arts, math, reading and social studies. All teachers in these subject areas were given the opportunity for input into these. Later in the overall plan, instructional programs will be evaluated in terms of established objectives.

In short, progress is being made in efforts to make education more accountable of the final product.

Many segments of society—not just teachers—share responsibilities for successes and failures in public education. ▲

Answers To Pop Test

Here are the correct answers to the 20 questions in Pop Test #19. If you get a perfect score, be sure to let us know.

1—Nimbus; 2—New York; 3—George Santayana; 4—Anise; 5—Rehoboam in II Chronicles, 11:21; 6—4 strings; 7—Fails to Follow Suit; 8—Open Places; 9—Politician; 10—Iron; 11—North Koreans; 12—Tchaikovsky; 13—56 1/4 kilograms; 14—Southwest; 15—Centaur; 16—Foxglove; 17—Mann Act; 18—Thomas Hardy; 19—41 whacks; ("Lizzie Borden took an axe and gave her mother 40 whacks. When she saw what she had done, she gave her father 41"); 20—Margaret Thatcher.

Your score: 20—Wow! 18-19—Excellent; 15-17—Very Good; 11-14—Good; 8-10—Fair; 7 or below—Better Luck Next Time.

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